

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Preliminary Report estimating Wool Production, 1938-39.

ESTIMATED WOOL PRODUCTION, 1938-39 - 97,000,000 (86,606,388) lbs.
Value £3,740,000 (£4,070,500).

ESTIMATED SHEEP, 31/12/38 - No. 9,400,000 (8,904,402).

Both Wool and Sheep exceeded the records of the previous year.

I. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF SHEEP. The actual count 31st December 1937 or thereabouts of 8,904,402, plus net Imports and 1938 lambing less Slaughtering and Mortality gives an estimate at 31st December 1938 or thereabouts of approximately 9,400,000 sheep. The particulars are -

- (a) Interstate Transfers - Imports 303,980; Exports 210,640; Net Imports 93,340.
- (b) Lambing 1938 - Estimated markings 2,870,000.
- (c) 1938 Slaughtering - 2,000,000 and Mortality losses 400,000.

The substantial increase in the sheep flocks has been realised despite an increase of 410,000 in the number slaughtered (300,000 being due to increased slaughterings of lambs for export), 130,000 more sheep crossing to the other States, and 150,000 less crossing from other States.

II. ESTIMATED WOOL PRODUCTION. Grand Total 97,000,000 (86,606,388) lbs., increase nearly 10,400,000 lbs. compiled as follows -

- (a) Wool-Clip. 9,600,000 (8,654,764) sheep and lambs are estimated to have been shorn, the wool-clip including crutchings &c. being 85,000,000 (74,893,269) lbs. averaging per fleece 8.85 (8.65) lbs.
- (b) Fellmongered and on skins exported. - Estimated 12,000,000 (11,713,119) lbs.

III. VALUES. The previous Season's Wool Production was valued at £4,070,500 averaging 11.28d. per lb. greasy. The Adelaide Sales of this season's Wool from July 1938 to February 1939 have averaged 9½d. per lb. At an average price of 9½d. per lb., the whole Wool Production is estimated to realise £3,740,000 a decrease of approximately £330,000 on the previous season.

IV. SUMMARY OF STATE'S WOOL PRODUCTION IN THE GREASE.

Season ended June 30th	Aver. weight per Fleece lbs.	Wool Production and Value				Aver. per lb. greasy d.
		Shorn and Crutchings lbs.	On skins and Fellmongered lbs.	Grand Total lbs.	Estimated Value £	
1934	8.34	67,668,282	11,620,621	79,288,903	4,506,253	13.64
1935	8.43	68,547,294	9,243,639	77,790,933	2,654,616	8.19
1936	8.76	70,912,985	10,796,455	81,709,440	4,058,236	11.92
1937	8.41	66,743,386	9,860,910	76,604,296	4,360,062	13.66
1938	8.65	74,893,269	11,713,119	86,606,388	4,070,500	11.28
x 1939	8.85	85,000,000	12,000,000	97,000,000	3,740,000	9.25

x 1938-39 is estimated, subject to final revision.

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Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE.
3rd March, 1939.

GOVERNMENT STATIST.